

Hewlett-Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

Remarks/Arguments

This amendment is responsive to the non-final office action mailed January 15, 2004 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-18, 20-26 and 28-33 remain in this application. Claims 3, 11, 19 and 27 are canceled. Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 are amended to incorporate the limitations from dependent claims 3, 11, 19 and 27, respectively. Claims 4, 13, 20 and 28 are amended to depend from Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26, respectively. For the reasons given below, all of the claims are believed to be allowable over the cited prior art.

Specification objections

The Specification is amended on pages 5, 7 and 8 to correct reference numerals and to refer to "kbps". In the drawings, Figure 1 is amended to correct a reference numeral error.

Drawing Amendment

Figure 1 is amended as follows: within the web page 146 shown on the display device 133, the reference numeral corresponding to the thumbnail version of the full-page image file is changed from 149 to 150. A Replacement Sheet for Figure 1 is provided with this Amendment A.

Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9, 10, 14, 15 and 17, 18, 22, 23 and 25, 26, 30, 31 and 33 under 102(e)

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9, 10, 14, 15 and 17, 18, 22, 23 and 25, 26, 30, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,392,758 to Hines. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 are amended to include the limitations from dependent Claims 3, 11, 19 and 27, respectively. As the Examiner acknowledges in the Office Action, Hines fails to disclose the determination of a block size of the first data portion. Additionally, as explained more fully below, the other cited references to Murphy and Cavill do not disclose, teach or suggest a method of printing a data file that includes this step. Therefore all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

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Rejection of Claims 3-5, 11-13, 19-21 and 27-29 under 103(a)

Claims 3-5, 11-13, 19-21 and 27-29 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,392,758 to Hines in view of US Patent No. 6,031,624 to Murphy. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, Independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 are amended to include the limitations from dependent Claims 3, 11, 19 and 27, respectively. As amended, these four independent claims include the step of setting a block size for a portion of data from the stream.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the printing logic 149 controls the system 100 to begin receiving a data file 169 from a remote content source in the form of a data stream. To allow the system to receive and process individual portions of the data stream, the printing logic 149 sets a block size for portions of data to be gathered from the data stream. The printing logic 149 then gathers and processes a first portion 40' from the data stream, then a second portion 40", and so forth.

The printing logic may examine and utilize system characteristics, such as the data transfer speed, to set and periodically adjust the block size of the portions of data gathered. Preferably, setting the block size is performed before the system 100 begins receiving data from the remote content source. The block size of the portions of data may also be adjusted periodically and concurrently with the printing process. In this manner, the block size may be dynamically adjusted during the printing process to optimize print speed. Advantageously, by increasing the block size of data as the data transfer speed increases, fewer portions of data are sent to the printer 128. Because the printer is required to process fewer portions, print speed may be increased.

In contrast, Murphy discloses overall data buffering in a printing system, and does not teach or suggest determining or setting the size of individual portions of print data received by the printer. In Murphy, print data is transferred from the host computer 26 to the printer 10 in "packets" (See Column 6, lines 30-40). For a given print job, the host computer 26 sends a "packet header" with each packet of print data that is sent to the printer. The "packet header" includes the quantity of print data that will be contained in the instant packet (See Column 8, lines 6-12). For example, in one embodiment the size of each data packet is described as being approximately 50 Kbytes (See Column 13, lines 26-28). For a given print job, the size or amount of data in each packet does not vary. Additionally, there is no teaching or suggestion in Murphy of how or why the packet size is determined or set by the host computer 26.

As the printer 10 receives packets of data from the host computer 26, the printer 10 determines when enough print data has been accumulated in its buffer for the particular

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page that is about to be printed. At the proper moment the printer 10 initiates the paper movement of that same page through the print engine (See Column 7, lines 51 – 56). In other words, the printer 10 decides how many packets of data should be buffered within the printer before commanding the print engine to start moving the print media (See Abstract, lines 12-15, 27-34). There is no teaching or suggestion of determining or setting the size of the packets.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all of the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. See MPEP § 2143.03. As explained above, Murphy does not disclose, teach or suggest determining or setting the size of the packets of data received from the host computer. Therefore, with regard to amended Claims 1, 10, 18 and 26, Murphy does not disclose, teach or suggest the step of setting a block size for a portion of data from the stream. Accordingly, Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established, and that independent claims 1, 10, 18 and 26 and dependent claims 2, 4-9, 12-18, 20-27, and 28-33 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Dependent claims 4, 12, 20 and 28 include the step of adjusting the block size based upon the data transfer speed. As noted, Murphy teaches only overall data buffering, and does not disclose, teach or suggest varying the size of the packets of data received from the host computer. Therefore, dependent claims 4, 12, 20 and 29 are allowable over Murphy for this additional reason.

Dependent claims 5, 13, 21 and 29 include the step of setting a first block size if the data transfer speed is a first speed, and setting a second block size larger than the first block size if the data transfer speed is a second speed greater than the first speed. Murphy does not disclose, teach or suggest increasing the size of the packets of data received from the host computer if the data transfer speed is a second speed greater than a first speed. Therefore, dependent claims 5, 13, 21 and 29 are allowable over Murphy for this additional reason.

Rejection of Claims 8, 16, 24 and 32 under 103(a)

Claims 8, 16, 24 and 32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hines in view of US Patent No 6,003,069 to Cavill. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Like Hines and Murphy, Cavill does not disclose, teach or suggest setting the block size of individual portions of data received by a printing system. Therefore, the rejection of Claims 8, 16, 24 and 32 is improper and should be withdrawn.

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Conclusion

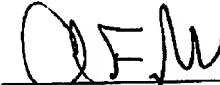
In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that all of the currently pending claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-18, 20-26 and 28-33 are in condition for allowance and a notification to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent Office at (703) 872-9306 on May 14, 2004.


Bridgett Barrett


Charles F. Moore, Reg. No. 39,779
Telephone No. (360) 212-8369
Fax No. (360) 212-3060

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
Intellectual Property Administration, M/S 35
Legal Department
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
P.O. Box 272400
3404 E. Harmony Road
Fort Collins, CO 80528-9599